



Salvatorian College Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing
Monday 16 November 2020

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 15th November
Gospel: Matthew: 25: 14-30

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Next week, our Year 11 boys will be setting mock exams. The cancellation of the GCSEs last year has highlighted how important it is for our pupils to work hard and achieve throughout their school career, and especially for these mock exams. We anticipate GCSEs will go ahead next year; however, if circumstances beyond our control mean they are cancelled, the boys will be relying again on the results of these exams and on their coursework.



All pupils will be involved in target-setting meetings during form time next week. Please ensure you speak to your son about his targets, and familiarise yourself with what he is required to do to meet his target grades.

At this time of year, our thoughts normally turn towards the season of Advent which prepares us for the great celebration of Christmas. This year, we will not be able to hold our usual Advent and Christmas liturgies as a whole school. Instead, Ms Henry is planning class liturgies and other activities to focus our attention on this season of "expectant waiting". We will be continuing with our charitable activities as I outlined in my letter to you before the half term. We will be collecting for the Catholic Childrens' Society, for CAFOD, and for the Cardinal Hume Centre, which works with those who are homeless in central London. We will have a Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday, 15th December, and there will also be a traditional Christmas Dinner menu on offer from the Canteen.



We are very pleased that we have made it this far in the Autumn Term without a single reported case of COVID-19 amongst our student population. This is despite many schools in Harrow having to send home classes and year groups. I am convinced this is down to the diligence of our community, of your family and of your son in observing all the public health advice we have been given in recent months. At school, your son's safety and wellbeing is our top

priority. Education is, of course, a partnership between home and school, and we thank you deeply for your ongoing cooperation.



As the evenings become darker, and in the midst of a second national lockdown, hope can seem in short supply. There is a famous passage from the Gospel of St John, which is always read at the start of Midnight Mass on Christmas eve: "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"

Our prayers remain with you and your family, for your continued health and wellbeing.

Kind Regards,

Mr A Bryant
Head of School

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Gifts from God - Matthew: 25: 14-30

"Jesus told another parable. This time a man is about to go abroad and so he calls his servants to him and gives them each something to look after.

He gives the first servant five talents ("talents" was a word for money in Jesus' time). He gives the second servant two talents. And the final servant one talent. What did the servants do with the talents they had been given?

The first one used the five talents he had been given and made five more. So he gave the master back ten talents all together. The second one used the two talents he had been given and made two more, giving the master back four talents altogether. The final servant hid his talent in the ground. When his master came back he dug it up and returned it to him."

This week sees the last Sunday in 'Ordinary Time' this year. Next week we celebrate the feast of Christ the King and the end of our liturgical year (the church's calendar).

In St Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he talks about being ready for the end of the world. For us in our lives today, that means living the best life we can so that our hearts are ready to receive Jesus Christ. If we always have love in our hearts, we will not be afraid of judgement by God.

In Matthew's Gospel, we hear another parable describing the Kingdom of Heaven. We hear about the faithful servant who increased his master's money. Compared the money left in the servant's care to the talents and gifts that God gave each of us. We all have a responsibility to use those gifts given to us by God to make the world a better place.

Jesus is telling us that it is important to use the gifts that God has given us. We are all good at different things. We all have different skills and talents. What is your talent?

Some of us are good at singing, some of us are good at sport. Some of us are good at dancing, some of us are good at drawing. Some of us are good at baking. Some of us are good at building Lego. Some of us are good at speaking out when we see that something is wrong or unfair. Some of us are good at helping others.

Whatever your talent is, Jesus is saying that it is important not to hide our talents from others – to just keep them to ourselves and never let them grow. Instead, it is by going out into the world, by sharing our talents and using our skills to help others that we serve God.

Prayer:

We pray together for God's help to use our talents wisely: We pray for world leaders: that they may use their talents for the good of all people, making the world a fairer place for everyone to live. We pray for all children around the world: that they may all have the chance to learn new skills and to use their talents to make the world a better place. We pray for our parish, family and friends: that we may not hide our talents away, but instead use them to help others, especially people who are poor. You gave us talents. Help us to share and multiply them for the good of all your people. Amen

A MISSION PRAYER

Here I am, Lord send me to share your love with all people. May I be empowered and carried by you to be courageous and enthusiastic in bearing faithful witness to the merciful Father, to the love of his Son Jesus Christ, and to the divine life in the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow Salvatorian College on Social Media!

If you wish to keep up to date with all the events happening at the Salvatorian College, including our Armistice Day commemoration on Wednesday, then please feel free to follow us at the following social media platforms.



Twitter - [@SalvatorianHA3](#)



Facebook – [Salvatorian College](#)



Instagram - [@SalvatorianHA3](#)

HAPPY DIWALI



We wish all of our Hindu pupils, families and those in our wider community a very Happy Diwali!

WORDS OF THE WEEK

Monday – Impediment

Noun - A hindrance or obstruction in doing something; a defect in a person's speech, such as a lisp or stammer.

Tuesday – Wane

Verb - (Of a state or feeling) decrease in vigour or extent; become weaker.

Wednesday – Antagonise

Verb- Cause (someone) to become hostile.

Thursday – Rebuke

Verb - Express sharp disapproval or criticism of (someone) because of their behaviour or actions.

Friday – Impinge

Verb - Have an effect, especially a negative one.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love? These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and the life to come.

ATTENDANCE

The attendance officer has asked me to remind all parents if your son is off school, can you please ring the attendance line each day on 02088632706 Option 3, and leave a clear message stating the name of your child, their form class and which symptoms they are currently suffering from, not just stating they are sick.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS 2020

Whilst preparing for joyous holiday celebrations with your friends and family, it is not only important to stop and reflect on the joy and blessings in your own life, but also to be aware that not everyone is as fortunate.

Every year we provide assistance to our local community and following charities: -

- The Catholic Children's Society;
- The Cardinal Hume Centre for the Homeless;

all of which provide a number of vital services to needy families and individuals in our community who have nowhere else to turn.

The charities' works have a powerful impact not only on those whom they work with directly, but also on the wider community as a whole; in order to continue to provide these services they are completely reliant on charitable donations, and therefore we are asking you for a donation of either a small amount of money, or dry goods (i.e. tins, jars, biscuits, pasta, rice, tea, coffee, breakfast cereals etc.) that can be passed on to them for distribution.

Whilst writing, I would also advise that we are now collecting donations of food for our Christmas Hamper.

I can think of no better way to celebrate Christmas than by supporting those less fortunate than ourselves. Should you be able to contribute, kindly send us your donation as soon as possible; your generosity will have a positive impact and any amount you can share will be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

COVID INFORMATION

Information for parents and carers on suspected COVID-19 (coronavirus) in a child

WHEN TO SUSPECT COVID-19 IN YOUR CHILD:

if they develop symptoms of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Do not send your child to school or childcare setting. Inform the setting through absence reporting

If your child develops symptoms at the childcare setting, they will be separated from others, and will **be sent home**

If your child (or anyone in your household) has symptoms they must arrange a test **as soon as possible** and isolate at home for **10 days** from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result). Everyone else in the household who does not have symptoms must isolate at home for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result)

Arrange for a coronavirus test for anyone in your household with symptoms either online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call NHS testing line on 119. The test must be done within **five days** of when symptoms start. Ensure you know who to contact with the results in the school/childcare setting if the results are received outside usual working hours

You will be offered a test at your closest drive-through centre. This is the quickest option. A parent or carer will need to perform the test on children under 12 years old. If you don't drive, you can request a home test kit. **Do not** get a taxi or public transport to the test centre

Result of test (you will receive this by email or text message)

NEGATIVE

Child/staff member can return to setting once well, unless they are a contact of a case, when they will need to complete 14 days self-isolation

If your child is identified as having been in contact with a confirmed case, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days, even if they have had a negative test result. If they develop symptoms, they should isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms, arrange testing and follow the flowchart above

For medical advice call NHS 111, or in an emergency call 999

POSITIVE

Inform the school or childcare setting as soon as possible even if outside opening hours. The child's close contacts within the school will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days

Ensure the child who has tested positive completes the **10 day** isolation period (from date of onset of symptom)*. Household members without symptoms should complete 14 days isolation

NHS Test & Trace will send you a text or email alert or call you with instructions of how to share details of people with whom you have had close, recent contact and places you have visited

*If the child is a confirmed case they can return to the childcare setting/school after 10 days. If they still have a temperature, diarrhoea or are being sick they should wait until 48 hours after these symptoms stop. If the child does not develop symptoms, but lives in a household with someone who has tested positive, they can return to setting after completing 14 days self-isolation at home

For general information about COVID-19 please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>